



2019 Rural Summit

Rural Maryland Rising: Investing in Resiliency, Collaboration, and Innovation

Thursday, December 12, 2019

DoubleTree Hilton Hotel, Annapolis, Maryland



Welcome to the 2019 Rural Summit

Dear Attendees,

Thank you for joining us for the 2019 Rural Summit "Rural Maryland Rising: Investing in Resiliency, Collaboration, and Innovation". We have many exciting speakers, presentations, and sessions focused on Economic Development, Community Development, Health Care, Agriculture, Aquaculture and Forestry. A meal ticket is included inside your name badge. Be sure to stay after for the networking reception.

We would like to thank the Rural Summit Planning Committee members for their hard work in helping to put this conference together: Dona Sorce, John Hartline, Mike Theilke, Andrew Rose, Steve McHenry, Susan O'Neill, Susan Harrison, Janna Howley, Daniel Rider, Kelly Dudeck, Lara Wilson, Mark Widmyer, Mindie Burgoyne, Nancy Nunn, Odette Ramos, and Scott Warner.

Please enjoy today's knowledgeable speakers and engaging breakout sessions. We encourage you to take the time to connect with other attendees, as these simple connections can often start lasting collaborations. We hope everyone who enjoys the conference is inspired to work together to improve the quality of life for all of Maryland.

Sincerely,



Scott Warner,
Executive Board Chair, Rural Maryland Council



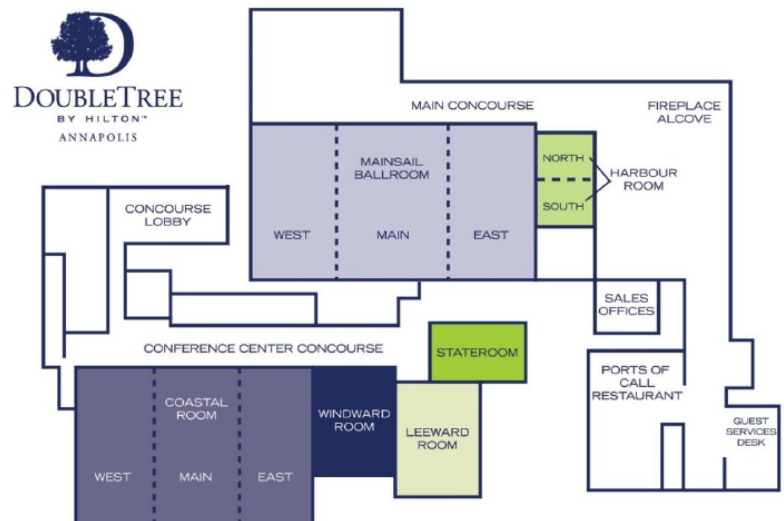
Charlotte Davis,
Executive Director, Rural Maryland Council

Navigating the Summit

Breakout sessions will occur in the Harbour, Windward, Coastal East and West, State and Leeward Conference Rooms.

After today's Summit, our powerpoint presentations will be available for download. Expect to receive an email with a link to download these presentations.

Join today's conversation on social media using
#ruralsummit2019



ruralmaryland.council



@RuralMaryland



2019 Rural Summit: Rural Maryland Rising - Investing in Resiliency, Collaboration, and Innovation

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

DoubleTree Hilton Hotel, 210 Holiday Court, Annapolis, MD 21401

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Task Force on Rural Internet, Broadband, Wireless and Cellular Service Meeting
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	RMC Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner Recognizing Rural Volunteer, Rural Community Development, Rural Economic Development and Rural Champion Rural Legacy Award Presentation Maryland Senate President The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. (Senator, District 27)

Thursday, December 12, 2019

DoubleTree Hilton Hotel, 210 Holiday Court, Annapolis, MD 21401

7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Exhibitor Set-Up			
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Participant Registration			
Opening of 2019 Rural Summit/Continental Breakfast				
9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Breakout Sessions #1 Four Focus tracks	Agriculture, Aquaculture & Forestry: <i>Innovations in Young/Beginner Access Programming and the MDA Strategic Plan</i> Coastal Main	Health Care: <i>Updates in Rural Health Care Delivery</i> Coastal East	Community Development: <i>The Promise of Opportunity Zones</i> Windward	Economic Development: <i>How Healthy is Your Ecosystem?</i> Leeward
9:50 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	Welcome by RMC Chair, John Hartline Guest Speaker, Boyd K. Rutherford, Lieutenant Governor of Maryland Opening Keynote Address, Dr. Paul Costello, Vermont Council on Rural Development Mainsail Ballroom			
10:20 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	2020 Session Preview with Maryland Legislators The Honorable Katie Fry Hester (Senator, District 9) The Honorable George Edwards (Senator, District 1) The Honorable Sheree Sample-Hughes (Delegate, District 37B) Moderator: Lindsay Thompson, RMC Legislative Committee Co-Chair Mainsail Ballroom			
Plated Lunch				
10:50 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Maryland Cabinet Secretaries and Departments Panel Secretary David Brinkley, Maryland Department of Budget and Management Secretary Kelly Schulz, Maryland Department of Commerce Assistant Secretary Suzanne Dorsey, Maryland Department of the Environment Maryland Department of Natural Resources Moderator: The Honorable Mike McKay (Delegate, District 1C) Mainsail Ballroom			
Transition to Breakout Sessions				

12:35 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions #2 Four Focus tracks	Agriculture, Aquaculture & Forestry: The Harry Hughes Center for Agro- Ecology Forest Study Update Coastal Main	Health Care: How the Maryland Model supports Rural Health Care Access Coastal East	Community Development: How Downtown Revitalization Efforts Impact Maryland Communities Windward	Economic Development: Maryland Association of Counties and Kirwan Education Funding Leeward
Breakout Sessions Transition				
1:20 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions #3 Four Focus Tracks	Agriculture, Aquaculture & Forestry: Saltwater Intrusion: Its Impact on Rural Maryland Coastal Main	Health Care: Aging in Place: Addressing What Happens to Older Adults Coastal East	Community Development: How to Meet Clean Water Goals without Breaking the Bank Windward	Economic Development: Connecting High School Graduates with Jobs Leeward
Breakout Sessions Transition to Closing Plenary Session				
2:00 pm – 2:05 pm	The Honorable Andy Harris, United States House of Representatives, District 1 Mainsail Ballroom			
2:05 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	<p>AgShowcase 2019 Presentation of Awards</p> <p>The past two years have featured agricultural and aquaculture innovators vying for an audience determined prize. This year, we will feature four of the most cutting-edge agricultural innovators either based in Maryland, or opening up new operations in the state. Join us for these fascinating TED styled talks about how these entrepreneurs are changing the face of agriculture in Maryland (and around the country).</p> <p>Featured companies are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terrapulse of College Park • Mercaris of Silver Spring • Ovipost of Cordova • MadTech Modern Agronomy of Huntingtown <p>This session will feature audience voting/participation to determine award amounts for the presenters based on relevance, innovation and other factors.</p> <p>Mainsail Ballroom</p>			
3:00 pm – 3:15 p.m.	<p>Summit Closing Remarks</p> <p>The Honorable Peter Franchot, Comptroller of Maryland</p> <p>Mainsail Ballroom</p>			
3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	<p>Networking Reception Cash Bar Mainsail Ballroom</p>			
4:00 p.m.	Summit Concludes			

Thank you for attending the 2019 Rural Summit

Tell us what you think and help us improve on future events:

Please visit <https://charlottedavis1.typeform.com/to/jCeIWC> to fill out our Summit evaluation form.

Breakout Sessions

Agriculture, Aquaculture and Forestry:

Breakout Session #1 - Innovations in Young / Beginner Access Programming and the Maryland Department of Agriculture Strategic Plan

9:00 am -9:45 am | Coastal Main

Panelists:

Steve McHenry, Maryland Agricultural & Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation

Kelly Dudeck, Grow & Fortify

Julie Oberg, Deputy Secretary, Maryland Department of Agriculture

The Maryland Department of Agriculture will provide an overview of the just-released Statewide Strategic Plan for Maryland Agriculture, which was developed in coordination with the Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology. This Plan analyses the external forces and trends impacting the industry; identifies strengths and challenges facing Maryland farmers, and identifies areas of needing potential further review and opportunities to help advance Maryland Agriculture in the future. MARBIDCO and Grow and Fortify will follow by highlighting some opportunities for young and beginning farmers and value-added agriculture.

Breakout Session #2 - The Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology Forest Study Update

12:35 pm - 1:15 pm | Coastal Main

Panelists:

Nancy Nunn, Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology

Kelly Dudeck, Grow & Fortify

Craig Highfield, Chesapeake Bay's Chesapeake Forests Program

Moderator: Josh Bollinger, Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology

Presenters will overview the significance of Senate Bill 729, which requires the Hughes R. Hughes Center to submit a study on forest cover and tree canopy in Maryland to the state legislature. The session will overview what is included in the study and what potential impacts the study can bring.

Breakout Session #3 - Saltwater Intrusion; Its Impact on Rural Maryland

1:20 pm - 2:00 pm | Coastal Main

Speaker: Jason Dubow, Manager, Resource Conservation at Maryland Department of Planning

Saltwater intrusion is destroying farmland and crops. The Maryland Department of Planning, in consultation with Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Maryland Department of the Environment and Maryland Department of Agriculture, (Chapter 628, Laws of Maryland 2018) is required to establish a plan to adapt to saltwater intrusion by December 15, 2019, and to update that plan at least once every five years thereafter. Since a significant amount of Maryland is adjacent to brackish or salty waters including the Chesapeake Bay, Coastal Bays, Atlantic Ocean, and their associated tidal tributaries, and since climate change impacts such as sea-level rise and worsening storms are affecting the movement of these waters, Maryland already is experiencing saltwater intrusion impacts within coastal farmland and forests, wetlands, and in some water supplies. To identify the scope for the project, and how this issue is affecting Maryland, Planning established a state agency workgroup, interviewed subject matter experts, and completed extensive research. In 2019, the Dept. of Planning will coordinate a review process with subject matter experts and stakeholders of the draft plan, focused on identifying five-year research priorities and promising applicable adaptation measures to explore for Maryland. Hear an update on the developing plan and a summary of the pending proposals being considered.

Breakout Sessions

Health Care:

Breakout Session #1 - Updates in Rural Health Care Delivery

9:00 am -9:45 am | Coastal East

Speaker: Dr. Fredia Wadley, Talbot County Department of Health

The Mid Shore Rural Health Collaboration was established under Senate Bill 1056 in 2018 and charged to design a Rural Health Model and also establish the components for a Rural Health Complex model with the criteria and standards by December 1, 2020. This session will discuss the major issues that have surfaced and how they are similar, yet different, from groups that have preceded the Rural Health Collaborative over the years with a similar charge to improve rural health care access and delivery.

Breakout Session #2 - How the Maryland Model supports Rural Health Care Access

12:35 pm - 1:15 pm | Coastal East

Speaker: Brett McCone, Maryland Hospital Association

Maryland's unique approach to healthcare financing impacts how care is delivered and supports access to services. The Total Cost of Care Model builds on the work of the All-Payer Model and on Maryland's more than 40-year history of innovation in hospital payment systems. For four decades in Maryland, hospital rates have been regulated by an independent state body, and all payers – private, commercial, Medicare, Medicaid, self-pay – are charged the same rate for the same service at the same hospital. For the past five years, from 2014 to 2018, that system was further enhanced via the utilization of global budgets for hospitals – fixed annual amounts that hospitals could spend to care for patients and communities. Now, the Total Cost of Care Model will bring non-hospital health care providers into the fold. Rather than focusing on how hospitals alone can deliver efficient, high-quality care, physicians, skilled nursing facilities, home health providers, and others, will be incentivized to improve how they coordinate care for patients and on societal health problems such as diabetes, heart disease, and opioid use disorders. In doing so, Maryland's entire health care system will work to ensure that patients receive the right care, at the right time, in the right setting.

Breakout Session #3 - Aging in Place: Addressing What happens to Older Adults

1:20 pm - 2:00 pm | Coastal East

Panelists:

Sarah LaFarve, John Hopkins Nursing

Duane Yoder, Garrett County Community Action Committee

Lauren Avarella, Civic Works, Housing Upgrades to Benefit Seniors

Moderator: Community Development Network

Older Americans are a growing population with important housing needs and vulnerabilities that, left unaddressed, can create significant downstream costs due to injury, illness, or custodial care. During this session, you will learn how some are working to keep seniors healthy at home in their communities.

Breakout Sessions

Community Development:

Breakout Session #1 - The Promise of Opportunity Zones

9:00 am -9:45 am | Windward

Panelists:

Ladan Manteghi, Georgetown McDonough School of Business, Rural Opportunity Initiative

Frank Dickson, Maryland Department of Housing & Community Development

In this session, experts will explain what Opportunity Zones were designed to do and discuss the investments made in Maryland to date. Will this strategy be a transformative tool for rural communities? What do community organizations and local governments need to think about now and in the future.

Breakout Session #2 - How Downtown Revitalization Efforts Impact Maryland Communities

12:35 pm - 1:15 pm | Windward

Panelists:

Kathleen Clendaniel, Downtown Cambridge

Carrie Samis, Main Street Princess Anne

Explore public private partnerships examples that lead to community impact on a shoe string budget, while galvanizing community enthusiasm. Explore some of the economic impacts of rehabilitation in the historic core and how the tax payer, and the tax base benefit. Look at how traditional downtowns are incubators for women and minority-owned businesses in rural communities and how Main street programs are taking advantage of a new wave of small business entrepreneurs.

Breakout Session #3 - How to Meet Clean Water Goals without Breaking the Bank

1:20 pm - 2:00 pm | Windward

Panelists:

Tom Leigh, Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Amanda Pollack, City of Salisbury

Kathy Stecker, Maryland Department of Environment

Moderator: Josh Hastings, Lower Shore Land Trust

In 2017, six Maryland local jurisdictions partnered to grow their capacity to help meet the Chesapeake Bay's clean water goals. With a federal grant matched by local and state funding, a circuit rider was hired to plan and prioritize projects and procure new implementation resources. Now in its third and final year, the pilot is demonstrating how shared technical assistance can help resource-limited localities make progress on water quality without stressing local budgets. Local officials, Maryland Department of the Environment staff, and the circuit rider involved in the project will share the financial, administrative, and community benefits of this collaborative approach to water quality improvement.

Breakout Sessions

Economic Development:

Breakout Session #1 -How Healthy is your Ecosystem?

10:50 am -11:30 am | Leeward

Speaker: Jack Schammel, TEDCO

Robust entrepreneurial ecosystems are a vital component of the economic development toolkit. This presentation explores the vital signs of healthy ecosystems and provides examples that have had a positive impact, especially in rural communities.

Breakout Session #2 - Maryland Association of Counties and Kirwan Education Funding

12:35 pm - 1:15 pm | Leeward

Panelists:

Kevin Kinnally, Maryland Association of Counties

Drew Jabin, Maryland Association of Counties

School funding is major topic of discussion around Annapolis. Such issues as how to encourage educational opportunities for students, enhance educational outcomes and prepare students for career readiness have been identified as important and significant goals. This session will cover the goals, steps, accountability, projected costs and budgetary realities of the recommendations of the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the Kirwan Commission.

Breakout Session #3 - Connecting High School Graduates with Jobs

1:20 pm - 2:00 pm | Leeward

Panelists:

Debbie Bowden, Caroline County Economic Development

Derek Simmons, Caroline County Public Schools

Preparing high school graduates for immediate entrance into the workforce is a goal of Caroline County's Public School system and economic development. Learn how the partners developed and implemented the first hiring event for the Class of 2019.

Speakers Biographies

Secretary David Brinkley

Secretary, Maryland Department of Budget and Management

Secretary Brinkley was appointed to the Maryland Department of Budget and Management in February 2015. He has previously served as a member of the Maryland Senate (2003 - 2015), representing District 4, Carroll and Frederick Counties. Secretary Brinkley currently resides on a farm in Frederick County.

Deborah Bowden

Director, Caroline County Economic Development

Deborah Bowden holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Maryland University College. She was appointed as Director of Economic Development in April 2018. Prior to joining the County, Ms. Bowden worked as a regional representative with the Maryland Department of Commerce after serving as the freight and economic policy analyst for the Maryland Department of Transportation.

Kathleen Clendaniel

Executive Director, Cambridge Main Street

Native to Maryland's Eastern Shore, Katie Clendaniel grew up in Trappe and was "raised" in Dorchester County when she attended school. After living in New Zealand and completing a Master's in Applied Anthropology, Katie discovered a vibrant renaissance taking place in her "hometown" of Cambridge and became involved in the Cambridge Main Street program as a volunteer. Through her work as a volunteer she discovered a passion for community and economic development that could be grounded in tangible impacts to communities. She has a passion for capital projects, public private partnerships, grassroots community development leading to quality of life opportunities in rural areas.

Dr. Paul Costello

Executive Director, Vermont Council on Rural Development

Paul joined VCRD as Executive Director in 2000. He is a native Vermonter who attended UVM before earning a Ph.D. in intellectual history at McGill. He has served on boards ranging from corrections education to cooperatives and libraries and is currently committed to a three-person blue-ribbon commission on Government Restructuring and Operations for the State of Vermont, and the boards of Vermont Rural Ventures, the Center for an Agricultural Economy, and Partners for Rural America.

Kelly Dudeck

Grow&Fortify

Kelly has spent over a decade working in either agricultural policy, land preservation or local food systems work. She was Howard County's first Food Policy Director, making huge strides from food and farmers. Before that, she was the Executive Director of the Maryland Agricultural Resource Council and prior to that Kelly served as Director of Rural Lands at 1000 Friends of Maryland, where she administered the Keep Farmers Farming campaign, as well as the Partners for Open Space coalition. She has also worked for the Ohio Department of Agriculture and Baltimore County's Agricultural Land Preservation Program. In addition to serving on the Rural Legacy Advisory Board, the Partners for Open Space Executive Committee, and the Maryland Food Policy Blueprint Advisory Committee, Kelly is also a LEAD Class VII alumni.

Jason Dubow

Maryland Department of Planning

Jason Dubow, Manager, Resource Conservation & Management, has worked at the Maryland Department of Planning (Planning) for thirteen years, where he is responsible for administering a variety of environmental planning laws and regulations, many related to land preservation and water resources planning, including the recent requirement to develop Maryland's first saltwater intrusion plan. He also facilitates the work of commissions and workgroups, including the Patuxent River Commission and the Sustainable Forestry Subcommittee of the Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission, and seeks to ensure local government and compact development goals are supported in Maryland's Chesapeake Bay and climate change mitigation and adaptation policies. He has a Masters of Science degree in Sustainable Development and Conservation Biology from the University of Maryland at College Park.

Assistant Secretary Suzanne Dorsey

Maryland Department of the Environment

Suzanne Dorsey has a doctorate in Coastal Oceanography and masters in Marine Science. Her background includes research science, grassroots environmentalism, education, and public service. She emphasizes connections to the environment and works to find ways for all people to relate to and then appreciate the environment. An ecologist, she focuses on the interconnectivity between different habitats and between humans and habitats.

The Honorable Andy Harris

Unites State House of Representatives, District 1

Dr. Andy Harris has spent his life serving his neighbors, country and community whether it was as a physician at Johns Hopkins Hospital, as a medical officer in the Naval Reserve, as a state senator, or now as Congressman. When he is not at work in Washington, Andy still practices at Memorial Hospital in Easton, Maryland. Andy served in the State Senate for 12 years, and continued to practice medicine while in office – epitomizing our Founding Fathers' belief in a part-time, citizen legislature. Maryland's First Congressional District first elected Andy to serve in the House of Representatives in 2010. He serves on the Committee on Appropriations and on the following subcommittees: Agriculture, and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education.

Speakers Biographies

The Honorable Katie Fry Hester

Maryland State Senator, District 9

Katie Hester is a Maryland State Senator, currently representing District 9 which includes Carroll and Howard Counties. She was first elected to the Maryland Senate in 2018 and has been a Member of the Senate since January 9, 2019. She currently resides in Howard County and Howard County with her husband and two daughters.

The Honorable George C. Edwards

Maryland State Senator, District 1

George Edwards (Republican) is a member of the Maryland State Senate, representing District 1. Edwards was elected to the office on November 7, 2006. He previously served in the Maryland House of Delegates from 1983 to 2007. Senator Edwards earned his B.S. in business administration from Fairmont State College in 1970 and his teaching certification from Frostburg State College in 1974. His professional experience includes being drafted by the Baltimore Colts in 1970 and playing professional football as a fullback. He served in the Maryland National Guard from 1970 to 1976.

The Honorable Peter Franchot

Comptroller of Maryland

Peter Franchot was elected Maryland's 33rd Comptroller on Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2006. Prior to his election to statewide office, Peter served 20 years in the Maryland General Assembly, representing the residents of Montgomery County. During his time in the Maryland House of Delegates, Franchot was a member of the Appropriations Committee and served as Chairman of the Transportation & the Environment Subcommittee. Throughout his career, he has been a strong advocate for education, health care, transportation and environmental protection initiatives.

Sarah LaFarve

Johns Hopkins University

Sarah worked as a nurse care manager and founding team member of an Aging in Place "Village" in Wilmington, Delaware. She later worked as Director of Community Health Initiatives at the University of Delaware College of Health Sciences. Sarah is Board President of the nonprofit organization Lori's Hands. Lori's Hands undergraduate volunteers provide assistance with non-medical instrumental activities of daily living and, in turn, community members living with chronic illness help students to understand the practical implications of health policy and health systems. Sarah founded the organization in 2009 in memory of her mother, Lori. LaFave lives in Baltimore, Maryland.

Tom Leigh

Program Director, Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Tom Leigh, a former local Riverkeeper and Chesapeake Bay Trust program director, has been hired as a clean water expert to counsel multiple Eastern Shore localities. Leigh will provide technical support to four municipalities and two counties as they reduce water pollution. Much like small churches on the Shore used to share a circuit rider preacher, the localities will share Leigh's expertise on cleaning up local creeks.

Ladan Manteghi

Senior Advisor, Georgetown University's Business for Impact Initiative

Ladan Manteghi is Senior Advisor at Georgetown University's Business for Impact Initiative where she previously served as the founding Executive Director. At Georgetown, she leads the Opportunity Zone work as part of their Rural Opportunity Investment program. She also heads Manteghi Global, a private consulting practice, driving social and economic bottom-lines in the private, public, philanthropic and nonprofit sectors. Manteghi helps companies do good by advising executives on social investment strategies, and helps nonprofits generate revenue by teaching and advising on revenue models. Her experience spans start-up and well-established organizations with a particular focus in corporate responsibility, economic development, cross-sector partnerships, social enterprise, politics and advocacy, stakeholder engagement, and nonprofit earned income models.

Brett McCone

Maryland Hospital Association

Brett McCone works closely with the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) staff and hospital leaders to develop fair and effective hospital rate-setting policies, serving as an advocate for MHA's member hospitals. In this role, Brett serves as a hospital field leader on reimbursement, financial policy, legislative and regulatory matters. In addition to advocacy before the HSCRC, Brett addresses many important issues before the Maryland Health Care Commission, the Maryland Department of Health and the Maryland General Assembly. Prior to joining MHA, Brett was a Managing Director in KPMG LLP's Healthcare Advisory Services practice.

Nancy K. Nunn

Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology

Ms. Nunn has played a key role at the Hughes Center since 2007. She was especially influential in shaping the Center's engagement with state and local governments as they created Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) for the Chesapeake Bay clean-up. Ms. Nunn built relationships with stakeholders and articulated the needs and concerns of communities in implementing nutrient management plans to the Governor and appropriate Secretaries. As a result, the organization was recently cited by the Bay Program as a "model for local engagement."

Speakers Biographies

Stephen McHenry

Maryland Agricultural & Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation

Stephen McHenry has served as MARBIDCO's Executive Director since December 2006. The majority of his career has been devoted in one way or another to serving the rural citizens of Maryland. He previously served as Executive Director of the Rural Maryland Council and Director of Government Affairs for the Maryland Municipal League.

Deputy Secretary Julie Oberg

Maryland Department of Agriculture

Julie Oberg was named deputy secretary of agriculture on Jan. 3, 2018. Oberg manages the day-to-day operations of the agency to help ensure that its programs continue to serve, promote and regulate the state's agriculture industry. She has been with the State of Maryland since 2004, most recently serving as communications director for the Department of Agriculture. She has also been an active member of the Communications Officers of State Departments of Agriculture (COSDA), and served as the group's President from 2016-2017.

The Honorable Mike McKay

Delegate, District 1C

Michael W. "Mike" McKay was elected to the Office of Allegany County Commissioner in 2010, for a four year term where he served as the President of the Board of County Commissioners. McKay was first elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 2014. He has been a member since 2015 serving on the Appropriations Committee. Delegate McKay is the President and CEO of Allegany Management Services, Inc. and represents Western Maryland in the Rural Maryland Council.

The Honorable Boyd Rutherford

Lieutenant Governor of Maryland

Boyd Rutherford is an American politician from Maryland who is the ninth and current Lieutenant Governor of Maryland, serving since January 21, 2015. Although Rutherford had never previously run for elective office, he has experience in both state and federal government. Rutherford was nominated by President George W. Bush to serve as Associate Administrator in the U.S. General Services Administration, serving from 2001 to 2003. Rutherford then joined the administration of Governor Bob Ehrlich, serving as the Secretary of General Services from 2003 to 2006. He was again appointed by President Bush to serve as Assistant Secretary for Administration to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, where he served from 2006 to 2009.

The Honorable Shree Sample-Hughes

Maryland House of Delegates

Sheree Sample-Hughes (Democrat) is a member of the Maryland House of Delegates, where she was recently appointed Speaker Pro Tem. She was first elected to the House of Delegates in 2014 representing District 37A. She earned a BA in Public Relations from Delaware State University and a master's degree in Public Administration from Wilmington University. In 2006, Sample-Hughes served on the Wicomico County Council, representing the 1st council district and served as Vice President in 2009 and 2010.

Secretary Kelly Schultz

Maryland Department of Commerce

Kelly M. Schulz brings a wealth of knowledge to the Maryland Department of Commerce from her years of experience working in the government, in the private sector, and as a small business owner. She had previously served as the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR) since her confirmation in February 2015 and is also a former member of the Maryland House of Delegates.

Lindsay Thompson

Thompson Ag Consulting

Lindsay is a graduate of Washington College with a Bachelor's in Political Science and a Master's Degree from the University of Maryland in Public Policy. Her passion for agriculture and policy led her to her current position serving as Executive Director for the Maryland Grain Producers Association, Delaware-Maryland Agribusiness Association, Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts, Maryland Pork Producers Association and MidAtlantic Certified Crop Advisers Program as well as assist in the administration of the Maryland Grain Check Off Program through the Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board.

Dr. Fredia Wadley

Talbot County Health Department

Fredia Wadley, MD, Health Officer, Talbot County Health Department, has worked for the department for 3 years. The TCHD's mission is to protect and promote the health of all residents of the county. We are a county and state organization in that the county provides the facility and about 1/3 of the budget while the state/federal dollars and generated revenue covers the remainder. Our services vary from the control of infectious diseases to in-home visits by nurses, care coordination for vulnerable populations, emergency preparedness and environmental permits. Fredia currently resides in Easton, MD.

Thank You to our Wonderful Sponsors!

